



**MEETING MINUTES
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF MONO
STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

Regular Meetings: The First, Second, and Third Tuesday of each month. Location of meeting is specified just below.
Teleconference Only - No Physical Location

**Regular Meeting
August 4, 2020**

9:05 AM Meeting Called to Order by Chair Corless.

*Supervisors Present: Corless, Gardner, Kreitz, Peters, and Stump (all attended via teleconference).
Supervisors Absent: None.*

All votes were conducted by roll call.

The Mono County Board of Supervisors stream most of their meetings live on the internet and archives them afterward. To search for a meeting from June 2, 2015 forward, please go to the following link: <http://www.monocounty.ca.gov/meetings>.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Supervisor Peters

Supervisor Corless:

- Adjourn meeting in memory of Gary Berger, community leader and longtime Mammoth resident, who taught many people to ski and fed many at his restaurant
- Quote that is misattributed to Dr. Anthony Fauci, "I don't know how to explain to you that you should care for other people."

1. OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

None.

2. RECOGNITIONS - NONE

3. COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

CAO Report regarding Board Assignments

Bob Lawton, CAO:

- Recruitment update for Assistant CAO and Public Health Director positions

- Met with Jason Canger, Assistant County Counsel, Katie Maloney Bellomo, and Hillary Hansen Jones regarding Mill/Wilson Creek Water Management in the North Mono Basin.

4. **DEPARTMENT/COMMISSION REPORTS**

Janet Dutcher, Finance Director:

- Budget resources on County website

Nate Greenberg, IT Director:

- Update on radios

5. **CONSENT AGENDA**

(All matters on the consent agenda are to be approved on one motion unless a board member requests separate action on a specific item.)

A. Inyo-Mono CUPA Services Contract Agreement

Departments: Public Health

(Louis Molina) - Proposed contract with Inyo County pertaining to employee services for Mono County CUPA program activities.

Action: Approve County entry into proposed contract and authorize Lynda Salcido, Public Health Director, to execute said contract on behalf of the County.

Gardner moved; Peters seconded

Vote: 4 yes, 1 no

M20-149

Supervisor Kreitz:

- Asked for more information from staff. Concerned about the large salary for a shared position.

Louis Molina, Environmental Health:

- Terms of the contract have remained the same over the last several years

Bob Lawton, CAO:

- Reviewed proposed salary and hours

Janet Dutcher, Finance Director:

- Billed quarterly, expenses have been between \$50,000-\$70,000 per year

B. Monthly Treasury Transaction Report

Departments: Finance

Treasury Transaction Report for the month ending 6/30/2020

Action: Approve the Treasury Transaction Report for the month ending 6/30/2020

Kreitz moved; Peters seconded

Vote: 5 yes, 0 no

M20-150

C. Quarterly Investment Report

Departments: Finance

Investment Report for the Quarter ending 6/30/2020

Action: Approve the Investment Report for the Quarter ending 6/30/2020

Kreitz moved; Peters seconded

Vote: 5 yes, 0 no

M20-151

D. Authority to Hire Fiscal and Technical Specialist IV at Step "B" - Finance

Departments: Finance

Based on qualifications and past experience, consider hiring a Fiscal and Technical Specialist IV at the B Step.

Action: Authorize the hiring of a Fiscal and Technical Specialist IV at Range 63, Step B.

Kreitz moved; Peters seconded

Vote: 5 yes, 0 no

M20-152

E. Consolidation of Elections - Mammoth Unified School District

Departments: Elections

Consolidation of special election of the Mammoth Unified School District with the Statewide General Election on November 3, 2020, and direction to the Mono County Elections Division to conduct the election and canvass the returns.

Action: Adopt Resolution R20-77, Consolidating the Special Election called by the Mammoth Unified School District for the Purpose of Submitting to the Voters of the District a parcel tax measure entitled "Mammoth USD Quality Schools and Academic Achievement Parcel Tax Renewal".

Kreitz moved; Peters seconded

Vote: 5 yes, 0 no

R20-77

6. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

Direction may be given to staff regarding, and/or the Board may discuss, any item of correspondence listed on the agenda.

The Board acknowledged receipt of the correspondence.

A. Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Letter re: Request for an Extension of Time to Submit QRA Report for Rhinedollar Dam

A letter from Frank L. Blackett, P.E., Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Regional Engineer, to James A. Buerkle, Southern California Edison Company Director of Generation, granting a request for an extension of time to submit the QRA Report for Rhinedollar Dam, which is part of the Lee Vining Creek Project, FERC License No. 1388.

B. Wildlife Conservation Board Letter re: Project(s) Proposed to the Wildlife Conservation Board

A letter from John P. Donnelly, Wildlife Conservation Board Executive Director, to the Board regarding projects proposed to the Wildlife Conservation Board for its August 26, 2020 Board Meeting that fall within the Board's jurisdiction.

Supervisor Stump:

- Alpine County burn box – if used on June Mountain in summertime, could significantly reduce the treatment cost per acre

C. Fish and Game Commission Notice re: Proposed Regulatory Action

A notice from Jon D. Snellstrom, Fish and Game Commission Associate Governmental Program Analyst, to all interested and affected parties regarding proposed regulatory action relative to amending sections 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 5.85, 7.00, 7.50, 8.10, and adding sections 5.84, 5.89, 7.40, Title 14, California Code of Regulations, relating to Simplification of Statewide Inland Sport Fishing Regulations.

Supervisor Peters:

- Leaves the fishing season in the Eastern Sierra as it has always been
- Supplied letter to local resort owners and tackle shop owners
- Will impact next year's regulations

D. July 2020 Agricultural Commissioner's Office Report

July 2020 department report from Nate Reade, Inyo/Mono Agricultural Commissioner / Director of Weights and Measures.

E. Board of Mono County Service Area No. 1 Letter re: Chip Seal Projects on Roadways in Mono County

Letter from the Board of Mono County Service Area No. 1 to the Board addressing their concerns regarding chip seal projects on the roadways in Mono County.

Supervisor Stump:

- Community is concerned about chip seal as a treatment on highways adjacent to housing due to noise.
- Recognized Garrett Higerd, County engineer, who has left the County to work for Mammoth Community Water District.

Stacey Simon, County Counsel:

- Recognized Garrett Higerd's departure.

F. Notice of Public Information Session - Bacteria Water Quality Objectives Evaluation Project

On Wednesday August 5th, 2020 from 6p.m. to 8p.m., staff from the Lahontan Water Board will host an online information session to engage interested parties in the Lahontan Region regarding fecal bacteria water quality objectives and the Bacteria Water Quality Objectives Evaluation Project that is in progress.

Stacey Simon, County Counsel:

- County Counsel's office has been tracking this over the years as it relates to the Bridgeport Valley and Bridgeport Reservoir

7. REGULAR AGENDA - MORNING

A. Resolution of Support for a Conservation Easement on Centennial Point Ranch

Departments: Community Development Department

(Kay Ogden and Susanna Danner) - Proposed resolution to support a conservation easement on Centennial Point Ranch, in the Bridgeport Valley.

Action: Adopt proposed Resolution 20-78, Approving the Agricultural Conservation Easement Proposal to the California Strategic Growth Council's Sustainable Agricultural Lands Conservation Program, Administered by the California Department of Conservation, for the Centennial Point Ranch Conservation Easement.

Peters moved; Gardner seconded

Vote: 5 yes, 0 no

R20-78

Kay Ogden, Eastern Sierra Land Trust President and CEO:

- Introduced item

Susanna Danner, Eastern Sierra Land Trust Land Conservation Program Director:

- Bi-State Action Plan

Mark Lacey, Centennial Point Ranch landowner:

- Preserve historic land uses and ranching operations in Bridgeport Valley
- Generations of visitors, wildlife corridor

B. Resolution of Support for a Conservation Easement on Ullman Ranch

Departments: Community Development Department

(Kay Ogden and Susanna Danner) - Proposed resolution of support for a conservation easement on Ullman Ranch, in the Huntoon Valley.

Action: Adopt proposed Resolution 20-79, Approving the Agricultural Conservation Easement Proposal to the California Strategic Growth

Council's Sustainable Agricultural Lands Conservation Program, Administered by the California Department of Conservation, for the Ullman Ranch Conservation Easement.

Peters moved; Gardner seconded

Vote: 5 yes, 0 no

R20-79

C. COVID-19 (Coronavirus) Update

Departments: CAO

(Bob Lawton, CAO) - Update on Countywide response and planning related to the COVID-19 pandemic, including reports from the Emergency Operations Center (EOC), Unified Command (UC), and the various branches of the EOC, including Community Support and Economic Recovery, Joint Information Center (JIC), and Public Health. Specific topics include, but are not limited to: (1) Scaling back EOC activities; and (2) Presentation regarding enforcement activities of Mono County and the Town of Mammoth Lakes.

Action: None.

Dr. Tom Boo, Mono County Health Officer:

- Mono County remains on the State monitoring list
- Bishop outbreak
- Testing opportunities
- Waivers for elementary schools
- Reducing occupancy
- Protecting workers

Public Comment (written Public Comments can be found on meeting webpage under Supporting Documents):

- Erica Ruiz

Break: 10:55 AM

Reconvened: 11:06 AM

Enforcement Presentation:

Stacey Simon, County Counsel:

- Introduced presentation
- Compliance philosophy and tools

Louis Molina, Environmental Health:

- Receipt of and response to complaints
- Visit and inspect food facilities
- Provide assistance and education
- Issue warning
- Permit suspension or revocation
- Trends and observations

Nick Criss, CDD Analyst – Code Compliance:

- Code enforcement
- Receipt of and response to complaints
- Visiting businesses

- Inspection
- Education
- Administrative fines or misdemeanor citation
- Trends and observations

Ingrid Braun, Mono County Sheriff:

- Receipt of and response to complaints
- Visiting businesses
- Patrolling generally
- Education
- Citation
- Legally authorized to enforce all public health orders (e.g., H&S §§ 101029, 120275, 131082; GC § 8665)
- Trends and observations

Gerald Frank, Treasurer-Tax Collector:

- Responsible for issuing business licenses to all businesses within unincorporated County
- Business license may be suspended or revoked by the tax collector or the Board for violation of law

Rob Patterson, Town of Mammoth Lakes Administrative Services / Finance Director:

- Receipt and response to complaints
- Town Ambassador Program
- Lodging BTC – revocation
- Trends and observations

Gordon Martin, Inyo National Forest, District Ranger of Mammoth and Mono Lake Ranger Districts:

- Hot spots: Lakes Basin, June Lake Beach, Reds Meadow
- Dispersed camping
- All restrooms in Mammoth-Mono district open, except Navy Beach and group campsites

Alicia Vennos, Economic Development Director:

- Thanked Mono Lake Committee in Lee Vining – moved visitor center services outside to provide only in-person visitor assistance in County
- Directing the public, businesses, and residents to the County COVID webpage
- Mountain Manners and Masks Mandatory in Mono social media posts

John Urdi, Mammoth Lakes Tourism:

- Occupancy numbers down from last year
- Mammoth Community Water District water flow usage data up 10% from last year
- Mammoth Promise

Supervisor Peters:

- Impacts of trash
- Thanked Virginia Creek Settlement owners for purchasing outdoor heaters for restaurants offering outdoor dining

Public Comment:

- Ralph Lockhart
- Janet Hunt

- Dawn Gould
- Jamie Schectman

Supervisor Kreitz:

- Over tourism study
- Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center providing outdoor services
- Outdoor dining provisions for restaurants in winter

Supervisor Gardner:

- Opening visitor centers
- Encouraging service

Supervisor Corless:

- Trash issues
- Unified law enforcement efforts
- Supporting workforce bearing the brunt of the pandemic

Dan Holler, Mammoth Lakes Town Manager:

- Trail Host Program
- Mammoth Lakes Welcome Center
- Discussion with Vons corporate

Supervisor Stump:

- Thanked/Acknowledged Public Health Department, particularly Bryan Wheeler, Environmental Health staff, and Code Compliance staff for all their work

8. OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

None.

9. CLOSED SESSION

Closed Session: 1:44 PM

Reconvened: 3:34 PM

Pursuant to item 9.E. of today's agenda, the Board authorized staff to initiate litigation against Rainbow Ridge Realty and Reservations in June Lake, and related parties, to enforce compliance with state and/or local public health orders related to COVID-19, in the event that Rainbow Ridge does not comply with such orders or directives.

A. Closed Session - Human Resources

CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS. Government Code Section 54957.6. Agency designated representative(s): Bob Lawton, Stacey Simon, Dave Butters, Janet Dutcher, and Anne Frievalt. Employee Organization(s): Mono County Sheriff's Officers Association (aka Deputy Sheriff's Association), Local 39 - majority representative of Mono County Public Employees (MCPE) and Deputy Probation Officers Unit (DPOU), Mono County Paramedic Rescue Association (PARA), Mono County Public Safety Officers Association (PSO). Unrepresented employees: All.

B. Closed Session - Public Employment

PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION. Government Code section 54957. Title: County Administrative Officer.

C. Closed Session - Existing Litigation

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION.
Paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Government Code section 54956.9.
Name of case: County of Mono et al. v. City of Los Angeles, Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (Alameda Super. Ct. Case No.: RG 18923377).

D. Closed Session - Existing Litigation

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION.
Paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Government Code section 54956.9.
Name of case: Claim for damages filed by Johnathan Palmer against Mono County.

E. Closed Session - Initiation of Litigation

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION.
Initiation of litigation pursuant to paragraph (4) of subdivision (d) of Government Code section 54956.9. Number of potential cases: one.

F. Closed Session - Exposure to Litigation

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION.
Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (d) of Government Code section 54956.9. Number of potential cases: one.

10. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Supervisor Corless:

- 7/22: Yosemite Gateway Area Coordination Team weekly meeting. "Coping with Covid" meeting, participated in panel discussion. Thank you to Robin Roberts and Justin Caporusso for organizing these important meetings.
- 7/23: Cal Rec Vision advisory group meeting--working on a "white paper" to communicate the need for state involvement and improved collaboration around sustainable outdoor recreation in California
- 7/24-29: One-on-one meetings and calls re: uptick in cases and local response, as well as impacts of high visitation
- 7/29: US Forest Service Region 5 Sustainable Outdoor Recreation Collaborative--update on statewide forest service situation, impacts of covid. All forests are experiencing high visitation and struggling to manage it. Some focus at this meeting on Mammoth Lakes Basin/Sherwins trail project currently in planning phase.
- 7/30: Collaborative Planning Team--reports on projects and Covid impacts from CalTrans, Bureau of Land Management, Inyo and Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forests, CA Dept of Fish and Wildlife, Mountain Warfare Training Center,

Lahontan Regional Water Control Board, Town of Mammoth Lakes. Some discussion re: opportunities for project funding through Great American Outdoors Act

- 8/3: Eastern Sierra Sustainable Recreation Partnership

Supervisor Gardner:

- On Thursday July 30 I participated with Chair Corless in a meeting of the Collaborative Planning Team. We heard updates from many of the members of the group about COVID-19 status, but also about current projects and planning.
- Yesterday August 3 I participated with Chair Corless in a meeting of the Eastern Sierra Sustainable Recreation Partnership. Topics included the status of grant applications and approvals, COVID-19 updates, and planning for future recreation-related projects.

Supervisor Kreitz:

- August 3rd, I participated in the Legislative Committee meeting of CCRH. We discussed concern amongst rural affordable housing developers by the push of building trades groups to insert language in SB 995 (Atkins), a CEQA affordable housing bill, to require skilled and trained workforce on all affordable housing developments. Due to the scarcity or entire lack of union contractors in rural areas would have the likely outcome to force outside labor to be brought in to rural communities over using local contractors. CCRH is going to write a letter expressing such concern and opposing unless the bill is amended. We also discussed the looming eviction crisis. There are three bills in the state legislature attempting to address, and the Governor has stated his office is working on a fix. The California Judicial Council has announced it will not be extending their rule on eviction moratorium after August 14th. Given the legislature doesn't close until the end of the month, if the Governor doesn't act there's a gap and sincere concerns.
- In the evening of August 3rd, I participated in the Mammoth Lakes Housing Board meeting. At the meeting, Town staff provided a brief update on The Parcel. There will be a full presentation to the Town Council at their meeting August 5th. Behavioral Health units were highlighted and Pacific Companies, the Town selected developer of the site, is willing to work with Mono County to place 12-15 behavioral health units in phase one. The Board also welcomed new board member Tony Perkins.

Supervisor Peters:

- Legislative updates: Great American Outdoors Act was signed into law today, will be good for us in the gateway communities. CSAC has held several government finance administration policy committee meetings
- 7/24: Attended a CSAC webinar on COVID disaster management strategies
- 7/28: Attended Tourism Commission, NACo membership call
- 7/31: Participated in the NACo Resiliency Advisory Board meeting
- Received letter from President of NACo, Gary Moore, appointed to Human Services and Education Steering Committee, Vice Chair the Rural Action Caucus Steering Committee, Member and Resilient Counties Advisory Board. All these functions are supported by CSAC funds.

Supervisor Stump:

- 7-21 thru 7-26: Iris Fire in Rock Creek - This portion of the County has been impacted by vegetation fires several times. The concern level of the residents elevates at the slightest smell of smoke. Many status emails were sent. I want to thank the Forest Service for it's aggressive response, the County Road Department for all they did at the checkpoint, and the Sheriff's Office for the orderly, as orderly as possible, evacuation of the entire Canyon. The County Road staff were praised by the Incident Safety Officer for their professional, knowledge based, and friendly way they interacted with members of the public. I also want to thank Tom's Place for the food support they provided to the firefighters the first three days on the incident. That business closed to the public for a portion of that time to focus only on meal preparation for emergency responders. I observed this activity being done within Covid guidelines.
- I spent time at the checkpoint and spoke with many of the evacuees from campgrounds who wanted to know where else they could go. Many indicated that they were just going to find a place to pull off a road and camp. Those that said that that I spoke with were advised on fire restrictions and ask to not leave trash now that they were leaving an area with fire rings, trash service and restrooms.
- Evening of 7-25: Part of the emergency response to a horrible two vehicle traffic collision on Benton Crossing Road Saturday night. One fatality, five serious injuries including to a minor child. Three total flown to Renown. Long Valley Fire, Mammoth Fire, Medic 2 and Medic 3 did a commendable job mitigating this multi-casualty incident. This accident was one of two that occurred almost simultaneously on the road. Fortunately nobody was injured in the second accident which involved a passenger vehicle hitting a cow.
- 7-29: Attended the Eastern Sierra Area Agency on Aging - The budget was recommended for adoption to the Inyo BOS. Much discussion of Senior Services during Covid. Take aways:
 - A Senior outreach phone number is set up to try and deal with those Seniors facing isolation issues. That number is 760 873-6364. If you know of a Senior needing outreach in either Inyo or Mono County please call.
 - CARES Act under Senior Services funds have been received. Approximately \$108,000 to be split between Inyo and Mono. Focus of additional funding will be on additional support for home delivered meals, outreach as referenced above, and legal services to support any increase in requests for help to deal with evictions.
 - PPE for hearing impaired Seniors, see through masks to facilitate lip reading, is being acquired.
 - Thanks to Patti for attending from Walker and her update on North County Hospice.
- 7-29: Board Covid Briefing
- 7-30: Incident debrief for the 7-2 MCI
- 7-31: Listened to a Business Round-table focused on Mammoth Town Businesses. Sponsored by the Town. Lots of concerns expressed.

ADJOURNED AT 3:51 PM in memory of Gary Berger

ATTEST

**STACY CORLESS
CHAIR OF THE BOARD**

**QUEENIE BARNARD
SENIOR DEPUTY CLERK OF THE BOARD**